[8th October 1928

Public Health

Efficacious treatment of leprosy in its various stages.

* 390 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased—

(i) to place before the House a statement showing the various medical treatments found most efficacious in curing or controlling the disease of leprosy in its various stages in the several Leper Settlements, hospitals, and asylums either under Government control or aided by Government, and

(ii) to state—

(a) what steps Government are taking for special research in tracing the most efficacious treatment of leprosy;

(b) whether they have received information or read about the effective treatment of leprosy by means of the juice of the caju fruit or the liquor or essence extracted from caju juice in Goa and Ceylon; and

(c) if so, whether Government have taken steps or are taking steps to try the efficiency of this treatment?

A.—(i) At present the drug which has been found most efficacious in the treatment of leprosy is Hydnocarpus oil. Its derivatives are also extensively used in the several leper settlements, hospitals and asylums in this Presidency.

(ii) (a) Several other drugs are at present being tested by medical officers in charge of leper asylums and the results are reported to be promising.

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) So far as information is available, it has not been tried in any of the leper institutions in this Presidency.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" With reference to (ii) (a), may I enquire what are the other drugs that are used by the medical officers?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Notice, Sir."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Are there any drugs which are used at all here?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The answer is given that they are using one drug."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" What are the drugs that are being tested?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Notice."

Agriculture

Selection of students for admission in the Agricultural College at Coimbatore.

*391 Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the affiliation of the Agricultural College at Coimbatore with the University has debarred the real agricultural and cultivating classes from sending their boys for agricultural study;

(b) the names and profession of the families of the students selected for admission into the college for the last three years 1925—1928;

8th October 1928]

(*c*) whether it is a fact that within the last three years the selection of students has been more from among those who are B.A.'s and B.A. (Honours) the exception being intermediate pass students ;

(*d*) whether the Government are aware that the ordinary graduates from the Agricultural College are not in most cases suitable for higher scientific and research work in the demonstration farms without a further course of practical work in an agricultural station ; and

(*e*) how many agricultural demonstration stations there are in the Telugu districts (including Ceded districts) and how many there are in the Tamil districts ?

A.—(*a*) Government are aware that the higher educational qualifications prescribed for admission to the College cause a little hardship to the boys of the cultivating classes. But only such candidates as have an agricultural bias and are connected with land are invariably selected for admission to the College.

(*b*) A statement [a] is appended.

(*c*) Apart from intermediate pass students only persons with a B.A. Pass degree were admitted as per the table below :—

	1926.	1927.	1928.
B.A. (Hons.)	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
B.A. Pass	3	2	1
Intermediate	36	39	40

(*d*) The answer is in the affirmative, and persons appointed to the Agricultural Department are always given training either in Research Sections or Experimental stations.

(*e*) If the hon. Member means demonstration areas run by the Agricultural department they are the following :—

(1) A demonstration area on the Samalkot Experimental station.

(2) A demonstration area at Vizagapatnam in the Kaikalur taluk.

(3) A demonstration area near Chayoragiri in Chittoor district.

(4) Six demonstration farms run by Agricultural Co-operative Societies in Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts.

(5) A small area at Madura.

(6) A number of coconut demonstration areas on the West Coast.

If on the other hand the hon. Member means demonstration plots on ryots' lands there are more than 600 of them in the Presidency.

Mr. R. Nagan Gowda :—" In answer to clause (*a*) the Government referred to 'agricultural bias.' May I know what the Government mean by agricultural bias ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" People who have some connexion with land-owning families."

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 113-116 infra.

[8th October 1928

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—"May I know what kind of connexion they are speaking of ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Relationship."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—"May I know if these students are expected to have worked on any farms before they are admitted into the college ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"That is not possible."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"May I enquire if in addition to the course requiring University degree, the Government think of providing another course in regard to agricultural classes which does not require University degrees ?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"No, Sir."

Steps taken for agricultural improvement in Telugu districts.

* 392 Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether any steps were taken for (1) seed improvement, and (2) cultural improvement and manures in the Telugu districts and particularly in the Ganjam and Vizagapatam districts ?

A.—The answer is in the affirmative.

Number of demonstrators in Ganjam and Vizagapatam districts.

* 393 Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many demonstrators there are in the Ganjam and Vizagapatam districts and whether any demonstration plots are selected by them in the ryots' fields ; and

(*b*) if so, what are the villages where the demonstration plots have been opened ?

A.—(*a*) There are four demonstrators in the Ganjam district and six in the Vizagapatam district. These officers are conducting demonstrations of improved agricultural methods on the ryots' lands in their respective jurisdictions.

(*b*) A list of villages[a] with the nature of the demonstrations conducted during the years 1926–27 and 1927–28 is appended.

Number of maistris in the Agricultural department.

* 394 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of agricultural maistris now working in the department ;

(*b*) where they are working ; and

(*c*) the nature of work on which they are employed respectively ?

[a] Printed as Appendix V on pages 117–118 infra.